

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said sweeping is achieved by at least one movement selected from the group consisting of:

pivoting said look-down digital imaging device about an axis, pivoting said look-down digital imaging device about an axis and translating look-down digital imaging device vertically relative to said target scan area during said pivoting, and translating said look-down digital imaging device laterally relative to said target scan area.

10. (Previously Presented) A look-down digital imaging device comprising: linear sensor for imaging a raster line of an object placed substantially below said look-down digital imaging device; and

lens for focusing reflected light from said object to said linear sensor, wherein said linear sensor receives a non-folded optical path of light reflected from said object.

11. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 wherein said linear sensor comprises a tri-linear color CCD array.

12. (Previously Presented) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 wherein said linear sensor is a high resolution sensor that captures digital image data of said object at resolution no less than approximately 300 dpi.

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13. (Previously Presented) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 wherein said linear sensor is a high resolution sensor that captures digital image data of said object at sufficient resolution to permit optical character recognition operations to be performed on said digital image data.

14. (Previously Presented) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 further comprising a digital video camera for capturing video data of said object.

15. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 implemented as a stand-alone device.

16. (Canceled)

33. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising:
determining from said video preview when said original object is aligned in said target scan area as desired; and
upon determining that said target scan area is aligned as desired, triggering said sweeping step.
34. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 14 further comprising a display, wherein said digital video camera and said display provide real-time video feedback of a target scan area.
35. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 34 further comprising:
said real-time video feedback providing a reference for aligning the object as desired within the target scan area.
36. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 34 further comprising:
said real-time video feedback providing a preview of the quality of image to be captured by said linear sensor.
37. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 36 wherein said preview of the quality of image includes displaying glare spots present on the object.
38. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of ^{claim} 36 wherein said linear sensor sweeps said image raster line across said target scan area only once for capturing a desired image of said object.
39. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of ^{claim} 14 further comprising a display for displaying a video preview of a target scan area before said linear sensor imaging said raster line.
40. (New) The system of claim 17 wherein said means for capturing video data of said target scan area for providing a video preview of the target scan area captures real-time video of said target scan area.